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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/383,924	08/26/1999	JUNICHI MORI	35.C13749	7190

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EXAMINER

TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 12/10/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/383,924

Applicant(s)

MORI, JUNICHI

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 August 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nishiwaki (US Patent No. RE37,031 E).

As to claim 1, Nishiwaki teaches a printing system in which a host device (2 in fig. 1) and a printer (6 in fig. 1) are connected via a communication medium and a print job produced in the host device is transferred to the printer to execute printing, comprising:

Memory means (i.e., RAM) in which paper output place information (ID of selected bin 123) on the paper output place (bin 123) used in the print job is registered (col. 5, lines 65-67 and steps of S3 and S5; note: the print job is assigned with personal ID number to ID of selected bin 123, col. 6, line 47 and 57);

Retrieval means (i.e., 101 in fig. 2) for retrieving paper output place information on a designated print job from the memory means; and Information means (i.e., 102 in fig. 2) for informing the paper output place information on the designated print job obtained by the retrieval (col. 5, line 66 to col. 6, line 6 and lines 58-59; from information in RAM 106, the information is retrieved and informed to the host device).

As to claim 2, Nishiwaki teaches detection means for detecting papers stacked on the paper output place of the printer, and elimination means for eliminating information on the print job having used the corresponding paper output place from the memory means when the detection means detects that papers have been removed from the paper output place (in step of S1 in fig. 5 and col. 7, lines 31-37 describes that the data in table shows the bin is available when the bin contains no the printouts).

As to claim 3, Nishiwaki teaches the memory means or retrieval means is provided in the printer (col. 5, line 66 to col. 6, line 2).

As to claim 4, Nishiwaki teaches the memory means or retrieval means is provided in the host device (col. 6, line 3).

As to claim 5, Nishiwaki teaches a method for controlling a printing system in which a host device (2 in fig. 1) and a printer (6 in fig. 1) are connected via a communication medium and a print job produced in the host device is transferred to the printer to execute printing, comprising:

registering paper output place information (ID of selected bin 123) on the paper output place (bin 123) used in the print job in memory (col. 5, lines 65-67 and steps of S3 and S5; note:

the print job is assigned with personal ID number to ID of selected bin 123, col. 6, line 47 and 57);

retrieving paper output place information on a designated print job from the memory means; and informing of the paper output place information on the designated print job obtained by the retrieval (col. 5, line 66 to col. 6, line 6 and lines 58-59; from information in RAM 106, the information is retrieved and informed to the host device).

As to claim 6, Nishiwaki teaches detecting papers stacked on the paper output place of the printer, and elimination means for eliminating information on the print job having used the corresponding paper output place from the memory means when the detection means detects that papers have been removed from the paper output place (in step of S1 in fig. 5 and col. 7, lines 31-37 describes that the data in table shows the bin is available when the bin contains no the printouts).

As to claim 7, Nishiwaki teaches the registration step or retrieval step is provided in the printer (col. 5, line 66 to col. 6, line 2).

As to claim 8, Nishiwaki teaches the registration step or retrieval step is provided in the host device (col. 6, line 3).

As to claims 9-12, Nishiwaki teaches the memory medium ROM (104 in fig. 2) which stores the program for instructing the steps in claims 5-8 as indicated above (col. 4, lines 19-21.

Art Unit: 2624

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
Dec. 10, 2002


GABRIEL GARCIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER